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Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

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| Applicant's or agent's file reference 61794 | FOR FURTHER ACTION | See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416) |
| International application No. PCT/FR00/01700 | International filing date (day/month/year) 20 June 2000 (20.06.00) | Priority date (day/month/year) 25 June 1999 (25.06.99) |
| International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC B60K 37/02 | | |
| Applicant THALES AVIONICS S.A. | | |

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.
☐ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).
These annexes consist of a total of _____ sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the report
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☐ Certain documents cited
- VII ☒ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

| | |
|--|---|
| Date of submission of the demand 11 January 2001 (11.01.01) | Date of completion of this report 03 April 2001 (03.04.2001) |
| Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP | Authorized officer |
| Facsimile No. | Telephone No. |

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/FR00/01700

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

- ☐ the international application as originally filed
- ☒ the description:
pages _____ 1-5 _____, as originally filed
pages _____, filed with the demand
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☒ the claims:
pages _____ 1-6 _____, as originally filed
pages _____, as amended (together with any statement under Article 19
pages _____, filed with the demand
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☒ the drawings:
pages _____ 1/5-5/5 _____, as originally filed
pages _____, filed with the demand
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☐ the sequence listing part of the description:
pages _____, as originally filed
pages _____, filed with the demand
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

2. With regard to the **language**, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language _____ which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, Nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/fig _____

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rule 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------|-------|-----|
| Novelty (N) | Claims | 1 - 6 | YES |
| | Claims | | NO |
| Inventive step (IS) | Claims | 1 - 6 | YES |
| | Claims | | NO |
| Industrial applicability (IA) | Claims | 1 - 6 | YES |
| | Claims | | NO |

2. Citations and explanations

Reference is made to the following documents:

- D1: EP-A-0 847 889 (MANNESMANN VDO AKTIENGESELLSCH)
17 June 1998 (1998-06-17)
- D2: FR-A-2 292 413 (BOSCH SIEMENS HAUSGERAETE) 18
June 1976 (1976-06-18)
- D3: US-A-3 599 910 (WIPFF FRANK P) 17 August 1971
(1971-08-17)

The single independent Claim 1 appears to be novel with regard to the documents cited in the search report. These documents differ, *inter alia*, from Claim 1 by the following facts:

- Document D1 describes a device for attaching, to an instrument panel, an instrument from which the subject matter of Claim 1 differs in that it does not comprise a reinforcement in the instrument panel, the cross-section of which is the same as that of the housing provided with the flanges thereof (the element 17 of document D1, however, appears not to be easily identifiable with a flange).
- Document D2 describes a device for attaching, to an instrument panel, an instrument from

which, *inter alia*, the subject matter of Claim 1 differs in that it does not comprise a flange behind the front surface.

Consequently, the present application meets the requirement of PCT Article 33(2), as the subject matter of Claim 1 is novel in view of the prior art as defined in the Regulations (PCT Rule 64(1)-(3)).

The problem that the subject matter of Claim 1 is intended to solve can be worded in the following way:

"how to limit the space requirement of the mechanical attachment of a device to an instrument panel".

The solution proposed has not been described in the prior art and does not constitute, for a person skilled in the art, an ordinary constructive measure for solving the problem.

The solution proposed in Claim 1 is therefore considered to be inventive (PCT Article 33(3)).

Industrial applicability:

The subject matter of Claim 1 is considered to be industrially applicable according to PCT Article 33(4) because it appears to be possible to produce and use it.

Dependent claims:

It appears that dependent Claims 2-6 contain modifications or improvements to the invention according to Claim 1, and meet the requirements of PCT Article 33.

VII. Certain defects in the international application

The following defects in the form or contents of the international application have been noted:

Contrary to the requirement of PCT Rule 5.1(a)(ii), the relevant prior art disclosed in documents D1 to D3 has not been indicated in the description, nor have these documents been cited.

Claim 1 has been drafted in two parts. However, certain features should not appear in the characterizing part since they are disclosed in document D3, in combination with the features set forth in the preamble (PCT Rule 6.3(b)).